

TOWN OF LAPOINTE  
**SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014  
AT 11:30am AT TOWN HALL  
Meeting with Ashland County  
**Approved Minutes**

**Town Board Members Present:** Greg Nelson, Michael Childers, Marty Curry, Jim Patterson  
**Absent:** Ham Ross

**Public Present:** Pete Clark, William Defoe, Kristian Larsen, Lisa Potswald, Michael Starck, Ashland County Administrator Jeff Beirl, County Board Chair Pete Russo, and County Board Member/ Chair of Finance and Economic Development Committee: Matthew Mackenzie.

1. Call to Order at 11:30am

2. Property Tax Exemption: Town Exemption Application and Ashland County Disapproving Resolution #R11-2014-1178:

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the application and rejection for the Property Tax Exemption, to find a midpoint or satisfaction of both parties. The Town had applied for about \$95,000 in property tax exemption and the County disapproved it. County Administrator Beirl stated that the services the Town applied for exemption from are not given to other municipalities (fire/ EMS, health services, and economic development services), and thus does not believe La Pointe should be exempt from these costs. J. Beirl also thinks that the worst part of the legislation is that it does not allow the County to reallocate the funds to other municipalities and would just have to take a \$95,000 cut to their budget.

Lengthy discussion on how the Town of La Pointe contributes to 25% of Ashland County's budget but only gets back about 1%, looking at how the County can assist with some health and human services on the Island that is cost effective, and that the County would like to come to an agreement with the Town and pay for the services rather than do the property tax exemption. Other areas that were brought up were animal control, senior and elderly care, and ice rescue. The Town and the County members want to meet again to discuss particulars and funding with specific examples of departments and services that the Town can be reimbursed for. The county will be seeking an amendment to the legislation for the part that states they cannot reallocate the funds to other municipalities, and they will be disapproving all resolutions or applications in the future, but would like to come to an agreement and remain a good partner to the Town and contribute to services that are duplicated.

3. Law Enforcement: not discussed

4. Zoning: the County currently provides \$5,000 to the Town's Zoning budget, it used to be \$15,000. It was reduced by \$10,000 but the law enforcement budget was then increased by \$10,000. The Town Planning and Zoning Administrator Lisa Potswald does more than \$5,000 worth of work for the County and the Town would like to find a way to see better compensation for the work done.

5. Inter- Municipal Agreement(s)

Discussions cut short due to ferry schedule. After both the Town and the County review and meet individually to determine areas that the County can reimburse the Town, there will be another meeting to discuss.

6. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn, M. Curry/ M. Childers, 4 Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 12:50pm

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk  
Approved as submitted, December 23, 2014